Adopt an Ecosystem Project

Due Tuesday, September 16th

For this project, you will be selecting a natural area near your home. This could be a park, a creek or river, a courtyard, or your yard – anywhere that has plants and/or animals counts as a natural area. Be sure to pick an area that you can visit often.

Your work on this project will count as a quiz grade!

Please complete the project on paper or in your Ecosystems folder on Google Drive.

**Task 1:** Choose a natural area (an ecosystem). Include the name of the ecosystem you use in your project title. (Example Title: Sarah’s Backyard Ecosystem).

**Task 2**: Select two organisms in your natural area. The organisms you choose can be plant or animal. Identify the habitat of each organism. Explain all four factors.

**Task 3**: Find at least 3 examples of interrelationships in your natural area. List the organisms involved and what type of relationship you found. (Predator/Prey, Mutualism, Commensalism, Parasitism, etc.)

**Task 4**: List all the biotic and abiotic factors in your ecosystem.

**Task 5**: Think about the biotic factors that you listed. Identify each as a producer, primary consumer, secondary consumer, omnivore, or decomposer and *explain* how you know.

**Task 6:** Explain/draw at least one food chain or food web in your ecosystem.

You may include photos of your natural environment, but are not required to.

**Rubric for Ecosystem Project – Please turn in a rubric with your project!**

Heading (4pts) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Rubric (3pts) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Title includes name of ecosystem (3 pts) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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|  | Exceeds (A)  (10 points each) | Meets (B)  (8.5 points each) | Approaches (C)  (7 points each) | Below (D)  (6.5 points each) | Missing (0)  (0 points each) |
| Task 2  Organism 1 | -Food, water, cover, and place to raise young explained in detail | -Food, water, cover, and a place to raise young explained | -Three of the four aspects of a habitat explained | -Two of the four aspects of a habitat explained | -One or none explained |
| Task 2  Organism 2 | -Food, water, cover, and place to raise young explained in detail | -Food, water, cover, and a place to raise young explained | -Three of the four aspects of a habitat explained | -Two of the four aspects of a habitat explained | -One or none explained |
| Task 3  Relationship 1 | -The relationship is correctly identified  -Student explains why it is this type of relationship in detail | -The relationship is correctly identified  -Student explains why it is this type of relationship | -The relationship is correctly identified but not explained | -The relationship is explained but not identified | -No relationship |
| Task 3  Relationship 2 | -The relationship is correctly identified  -Student explains why it is this type of relationship in detail | -The relationship is correctly identified  -Student explains why it is this type of relationship | -The relationship is correctly identified but not explained | -The relationship is explained but not identified | -No relationship |
| Task 3  Relationship 3 | -The relationship is correctly identified  -Student explains why it is this type of relationship in detail | -The relationship is correctly identified  -Student explains why it is this type of relationship | -The relationship is correctly identified but not explained | -The relationship is explained but not identified | -No relationship |
| Task 4  Abiotic/  Biotic | -Student includes at least 15 factors, all correctly sorted as biotic or abiotic | -Student includes at least 10 factors, correctly sorted as biotic or abiotic | -Student includes at least ten factors, with 80% correct sorting | -Student either includes fewer than ten factors or correctly sorts fewer than 80% of the factors | -Student includes no abiotic or biotic factors. |
| Task 5  Identifying Organisms | 4 or more organisms correctly identified with detailed explanations | 4 or more organisms correctly identified with explanations | 4 or more organisms correctly identified OR 3 with explanations | Fewer than 4 correctly identified OR fewer than 2 with explanations | No organisms correctly identified |
| Task 6  (Food Chain/Web) | Food web includes at least 5 steps and multiple connections between organisms | Food chain or web that includes at least 4 steps | Food chain or web that includes at least 3 steps | Food chain that includes 2 steps OR  Food chain with at least 4 steps but some inaccurate | No food chain or all inaccurate |
| Organization | -Neat layout  -Color and font used to enhance content  -Images used to enhance content | -Neat layout  -Color and font used well  -Images are related to content | -Attempts at neat layout  -Attempts to use color or fonts | -Font and color choices distract from content  -Lack of organized layout distracts from content | -Unreadable or not able to be understood due to font, color, or layout choices. |